

FITTING FINALE

In valedictory address, Vice Chancellor calls for sustaining academic excellence

The day had finally arrived, for the year-long celebrations to culminate in a Valedictory session of the Centenary Celebrations on April 25. Arts College served as a platform for diverse purposes was all decked up by the University authorities to stage this concluding ceremony.

Psychedelic lights, high-decibel acoustic systems, neatly arranged chairs, huge LED screen, barricades and a large posse of policemen presented a different picture even as the sun was setting.

Addressing participants, Osmania University Vice Chancellor said he was deeply honoured to celebrate this historic milestone with you. This University is one of the most important heritage institutions in State of Telangana. This occasion is thus important not only for our state, but for our country as a whole.

The Centenary Year is a unique occurrence in the history. It was so extensively celebrated with Conferences, exhibitions, lectures, publications and cultural activities.

"I salute the memory of all those great academicians and patriots who built and ran this great institution with such great distinctions."

The VC said we owe a special debt of gratitude to OU founder, H.E.H. Nawab Mir Osman Ali Khan, and described him as a great entrepreneur, visionary, institution builder and, above all a great son of India. "He transformed the face of modern India and



Vice Chancellor Prof. S. Ramachandram addressing the Valedictory ceremony of Centenary Celebrations on April 26, 2018.

created the institutional basis for growth of teaching and research", the VC said.

The completion of one hundred years is a major milestone in the history of any institution. On every count the Osmania University has

served the region admirably. This Institute has been the most visible symbol of the Telangana region's presence in the arena of basic research in all faculties, the VC said.

"I believe this is the greatest tribute we could have paid

to the Osmania University on the occasion of its Centenary."

He continued: "I hope that in entering its second century, the University will once again provide the academic leadership that will fuel the

"The entire knowledge pyramid needs to be revitalized. I hope the initiatives we have taken will contribute to its success."

renewed thrust in all faculties. The pressing problems of energy, health, water and food security and the growing concerns on climate change need much greater scientific attention than in the past."

The VC said the government is fully committed to supporting the University. During the inauguration of the centenary celebrations, the first announcement by the State Government of a special grant of Rs.200 crore was made to this University. We are receiving continuous support from the Government of Telangana, with an assurance that they will do all necessary for the fulfillment of the dream and for the cause of excellence.

The vast reservoir of talent must therefore be tapped to push the frontiers of knowledge. We need to change the way in which we approach and teach. Students seem to be losing "the pleasure of finding things out". It is this pleasure, this irrepressible sense of curiosity that is at the root of education system.

He concluded by appealing to the academic community to spread the light of liberal learning and critical enquiry among all our people, so that we can truly build a 'knowl-

edge-based' society.

The VC thanked His Excellency the former President of India Shri. Pranab Mukherjee for inaugurating the centenary celebrations; Hon Governor, Chief Minister, Dy Chief Minister and other esteemed dignitaries for all their excellent support, guidance and for gracing the occasion during the inauguration of Centenary celebrations.

He also made a clarion call to the university community today, to continue to make Osmania University a centre of academic excellence, and congratulated every stakeholder of Osmania University on this historic occasion.

"May the memory of the great leaders who came out of this great institution guide us as we continue grow from strength to strength."

Earlier, Prof. H. Venkateswarlu, Special Officer, Centenary Celebrations, read out the activities undertaken during the centenary year, and thanked everyone for their support. Singling out the Department of Journalism for its immense contribution in making a corporate film, Osmania Courier, he thanked the staff for their commitment and dedication.

The Nizam's grandson along with senior officials were felicitated on the occasion. Over 200 helium filled and lit balloons were released marking the kickstart of the cultural programmes. A spectacular cultural programmes, including songs, dance performances, followed.

All praise for 'Mosaic' photo exhibition

'Mosaic', the five-day photo exhibition, organised by the Department of Journalism drew a huge response from people from all walks of life.

Inaugurated by the Vice Chancellor on April 21, the photo show had a unique display of robust infrastructure facilities, rare pictures of construction of Arts College and other buildings, VCs who served the University till date and some unique shots of the campus buildings.

The grandson of the Nizam VII Nawab Najaf Ali Khan, along with his relatives and Paigah family members visited the exhibition and profusely thanked the faculty and students of the Department for putting up such a splendid display showcasing HEH the Nizam's vision and contribution to education in the region. Later, he was specially invited by the Vice Chancellor to participate in



the Valedictory session, where he was felicitated.

"Though hailing from a royal family, Mr. Khan was a down-to-earth person given to pleasing manners, said an excited student, who was enthusiastic about taking a photograph with him.

A special corner on the life and times of Raj Gonds of Adilabad district narrated through eye-catching photographs shot by S. Harpal Singh, Assistant Editor, The

Hindu, and research scholar in the Department, was a new feature in this exhibition.

Prof. E. Suresh Kumar, Vice Chancellor, EFL University, and former Registrar of OU, while complementing the Department of Journalism, said it was indeed historic as such an event was not staged earlier. Logistic support to this event was provided by Namdhari Events & Promotions, headed by Maninder Singh Malhotra.



Prof. E. Suresh Kumar, VC, EFL University



Nawab Najaf Ali Khan, grandson of Nizam VII

Faculty to face audit from next academic year

In a bid to strengthen the teaching-learning process, as a part of academic reforms, Osmania University has decided to embark on an "academic audit" from the next academic year.

Teachers will be asked to prepare course plans outlining the objectives, learning outcomes, method of instruction, assignments, projects, and assessment procedures.

Further, teachers will have to indicate number of classes devoted to each topic, and they will be asked to prepare notes to pass it on to students in the classrooms for every period. The accumulated reports will have to be submitted monthly or bi-monthly to the administration.

The feedback mechanism would include student evaluation of the course, pedagogy, and the faculty member which will be linked to the

performance appraisal of the teacher.

Further, faculty members would be required to indicate their consultation hours for students to resolve their doubts. The course plans submitted would come up for course correction at the mid-semester review. At the end of the semester, the reports would have to be submitted to IQAC.

At a meeting with principals of constituent colleges, the Vice Chancellors sought their support and urged them to create awareness among the faculty about the academic audit.

Assessment procedures would also be overhauled and faculty members would be briefed about different testing procedures. The Vice Chancellor said there would be a series of workshops to apprise the faculty.

ON STAGE AND IN THE PRESS

